

## **MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 10, 2008**

The regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women was held on Monday, November 10, 2008 in the Sybil Brand Conference Room, 372 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California.

President Duba called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

The following Commissioners were present for roll call:

President Duba  
Vice President Tanberg  
Treasurer Freeman  
Commissioner Creary  
Commissioner Gravely  
Commissioner Jernigan  
Commissioner Lesser  
Commissioner Rodriguez

Introduction of audience followed.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2008**

On motion of Commissioner Creary, seconded by Commissioner Jernigan, and unanimously carried, the minutes of September 8, 2008 were approved with the following additions/corrections:

Page 6, 5<sup>th</sup> Paragraph; Treasurer Freeman attended the birthday barbecue for Supervisor Antonovich, Fifth District *at the home of Dixie Eliopoulos*. ~~She also announced the retirement of Dixie Eliopoulos, 2008 Women of the Year Awardee.~~

Following a brief discussion on the October 6, 2008 Summary of Notes, staff member Rhonda Rangel asked Commissioners to e-mail any changes for the file copy.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Duba reported the following:

- The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual LA County Run for Health was a great success. She thanked Commissioners, Sachi Hamai, Executive Officer, Sandra Barbee, Chief Commission Services and the Executive Office Staff for their support. She also thanked the many County Departments that participated and all of the event sponsors.
- On September 8, 2008, she met with Sachi Hamai and spoke about the goals of the Commission and Ms. Hamai agreed to pay half of the ISD expenses for the 5K/10K.

- On October 16, 2008, President Duba and the Communications Committee met with John Wei, Deputy Executive Officer, Information Resource Management and his managers to discuss the Commission's website. In January 2009, the Commission's website will convert to web-sphere and will be placed on the County's portal.  
President Duba thanked Sachi Hamai, Executive Director, Board of Supervisors for her support.
- President Duba received an e-mail from Commissioner ZeBrack of her resignation from the Commission. Flora Gil Krisiloff, Senior Deputy, Third District informed President Duba that they have made one new appointment.

### **STAFF REPORT**

Staff reported the following:

- There will be a series of workshops throughout the County on the Seamless Senior Services Initiative.
- On November 13, 2008, at 10:00 a.m. there will be a "Shake Out" drill for all of Southern California.
- The Commission's December meeting will be held in conjunction with the Domestic Violence Grant presentation.
- A memo was sent to all members of the mailing list requesting their email address to support our efforts to go paperless.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Freeman announced that Supervisor Antonovich recently re-appointed her to the Commission.

Treasurer Freeman reported on the expendable allowance for the month of September 2008. The beginning balance as of September was \$7,764.29; flex spending expenditures were \$400.00; ending balance is \$7,364.29. The carry-over for October Flex Spending Allocation is \$1,929.21.

The beginning balance as of October 2008, was \$7,364.29; flex spending expenditures were \$0; ending balance is \$7,364.29. The carry-over for November Flex Spending Allocation is \$2,577.55. Report received and filed for audit.

In response to a letter sent by Commissioner Creary to Maria Shriver, First Lady of California, Commissioners Creary, Becerra-Jones and Gravely were able to attend the Governor's Conference.

### **PRESENTATION FROM LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES OFFICE OF NURSING AFFAIRS NURSING SCHOLARSHIP**

This item will be postponed to a later date.



**DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL TO JOIN AND PAY ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR CALIFORNIA PARTNERSHIP TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$250**

On motion of Treasurer Freeman, seconded by Commissioner Lesser and unanimously carried, the Commission approved to join and pay annual membership dues for California Partnership to End Domestic Violence in the amount of \$250.00.

(Commissioner Pinedo joined the meeting at 10:40 a.m.)

**DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL TO DONATE UP TO \$1,000 TO THE ANTELOPE VALLEY PARTNERS FOR HEALTH "WOMEN'S SPRING TEA EVENT"**

Following discussion, on motion of Commissioner Lesser, seconded by Vice President Tanberg and duly carried, with Commissioner Pinedo abstaining, the Commission approved to donate up to \$1,000.00 to the Antelope Valley Partners for Health "Women's Spring Tea Event" on May 13, 2009.

**DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL TO DONATE UP TO \$1,000 TO PROTOTYPES TO SUSTAIN CLIENTS THROUGH REMODELING PHASE OF S.T.A.R. HOUSE**

Commissioner Rodriguez asked to table this item to a future meeting.

**DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL TO REIMBURSE THE PRESIDENT'S FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF THREE TICKETS TO THE NEXUS XII TRAINING**

Following discussion, on motion of Commissioner Rodriguez, seconded by Commissioner Lesser and unanimously carried, the Commission approved to reimburse \$435.00 to the President's Fund for the purchase of three tickets to the Nexus XII Training Conference-Violence within the Home and Its Effects on Children.

**DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL TO REIMBURSE THE PRESIDENT'S FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF A HALF PAGE AD FOR PEACE OVER VIOLENCE HUMANITARIAN AWARDS DINNER**

Following discussion, on motion of Commissioner Rodriguez, seconded by Vice President Tanberg, and unanimously carried, the Commission approved to reimburse \$350.00 to the President's Fund for the purchase of a half page ad in the program journal for the Peace Over Violence Humanitarian Awards Dinner.

**DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL TO REIMBURSE THE PRESIDENT'S FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF A FULL PAGE AD IN THE PROGRAM JOURNAL FOR THE 18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL DIVAS SIMPLY SINGING EVENT**

Following discussion, on motion of Vice President Tanberg, seconded by Commissioner Creary and unanimously carried, the Commission approved to reimburse \$350.00 to the President's Fund for the purchase of a full page ad in the program journal for the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Divas Simply Singing Event on October 11, 2008.

**APPROVAL TO POSTPONE WOMEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS LUNCHEON TO MARCH 16, 2009**

On motion of Treasurer Freeman, seconded by Commissioner Lesser and unanimously carried, the Commission approved to postpone the Women of the Year Awards Luncheon to Monday, March 16, 2009.

President Duba asked staff to calendar the approval to schedule a Commission meeting on March 9, 2009.

**DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF THE WOMEN OF THE YEAR (WOY) AWARDS SELECTION PROCEDURES**

Following discussion, on motion of Commissioner Gravely, seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the Women of the Year Awards Selection Procedures (procedures on file).

President Duba thanked the Past Awards Luncheon Chair's for preparing the WOY Selection Procedures.

**DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF THE CHANGES TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN DUTIES/AUTHORITIES OF THE PRESIDENT**

President Duba informed the Commission that over the next several months the Commission will receive revised commission documents for approval.

Following discussion, on motion of Treasurer Freeman, seconded by Vice President Tanberg and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the changes to the Los Angeles County Commission for Women's Duties/Authorities of the President (duties on file) .

**DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF THE CHANGES TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN COMMITTEE BYLAWS**

Following discussion, on motion of Vice President Tanberg, seconded by Commissioner Creary and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the changes to the Los Angeles County Commission for Women Committee Bylaws ( bylaws on file).

**RETREAT WRAP UP REPORT**

Vice President Tanberg reviewed the LACCW Commissioner commitments and exercise completed at the CW Retreat. This exercise focused on the strengths that each Commissioner brings to the Body.

The Chair of each Committee present at the retreat worked on the **SMART** Goals (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Timeline) Action Plan. Vice President Tanberg asked all standing committee chairs, who were not present at the retreat, to complete a work plan and e-mail to her or staff by December 1, 2008. The work plans will be reviewed at the December 8, 2008 meeting.



### **REPORT FROM THE NEXUS XII ICAN TRAINING CONFERENCE**

Treasurer Freeman, Commissioners Becerra-Jones and Rodriguez attended the Nexus XII Training Conference on October 30, 2008 at the Sheraton Universal Hotel. Treasurer Freeman provided a written report on the conference (report on file). Commissioner Rodriguez reported on the presentation "From Murder to Forgiveness" given by Azim Khamisa, a father who's son was killed by a 14-year old gang member serving life imprisonment. Mr. Khamisa forgave his sons murder and has implemented several programs to break the cycle of youth violence.

### **DISCUSSION REGARDING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER/AGENCY SELECTIONS**

Commissioner Rodriguez reported that she has received the shelter selections for the following districts:

First District – Amanecer Community Counseling  
Second District – TBA  
Third District – TBA  
Fourth District – Interval House  
Fifth District – Antelope Valley DVC/Oasis Center

Following discussion, President Duba asked staff to invite the Directors from each of the five shelters selected to receive the Domestic Violence Donations. Due to the absence of Commissioners from the Third District, the Executive Committee will select the recipient.

(Commissioner Becerra-Jones joined the meeting at 11:26 a.m.)

### **UPDATE ON THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE SCHOLARSHIP SELECTIONS**

Commissioner Becerra-Jones reported there will be a meeting on Friday, November 14, 2008. The Committee will develop a user friendly survey for past scholarship recipients. This year's applicants were outstanding, with several returning scholarship recipients. Five of the young women are applying for nursing school and are currently volunteering at hospitals in the County. Commissioner Becerra-Jones also spoke to the Fifth District about there Nursing Scholarship program and found it to be very competitive.

The January 20<sup>th</sup> Scholarship Orientation will consist of presenters from the Office of Women's Health, Dr. Rita Shinghal will provide information on HPV and AIDS, Dr. Gonzalez on physical fitness, a nutritionist from USC and a representative to speak about consumer protection.

Nyla Jefferson informed the Commission of how the scholarships are disbursed.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Communication Committee:** Vice President Tanberg reported that she worked with staff member Nyla Jefferson on the format for the new website. Fourth District

Commissioners will meet with Gail Tierney, Deputy, Fourth District to provide an update on the work of the Commission.

Treasurer Freeman met with the Los Angeles County Fire Forestry and the Antelope Valley Conservancy District and they will donate trees and landscaping to the Oasis shelter. In collaboration with the Commission's donation, the shelter project shall be complete.

On motion of Commissioner Lesser, seconded by Commissioner Jernigan and unanimously carried, the Commission approved to extend the meeting to 12:15 p.m.

**Legislation Committee:** Commissioner Jernigan reported that the federal funds for Domestic Violence programs are tied to the Tariff Act and the Commission should watch this area for budget cuts. She shared news articles of the number of DNA rape kits (7,000) that have never been examined and maybe discarded. She would like the Commission to invite a representative from the District Attorney's Office to address this issue. She spoke on the gender pay gaps of women in the workplace, as it compares to the higher pay for men.

Commissioner Jernigan would like to obtain the number of women elected to office on the state and federal level in the last election. Also, James Hahn was appointed to the Superior Court by Governor Schwarzenegger and Mark Ridley-Thomas will be installed as the new Second District Supervisor. Lastly, she requested the list of legislation recommended by the State California Commission on the Status of Women.

**Health Committee:** Commissioner Lesser distributed the end of last year legislation as it relates to women and will ask Mary Wiberg to send current legislation to Commissioner Jernigan. She thanked Treasurer Freeman for the article on LAC+USC Healthcare Network Medical Center (General Hospital). General Hospital has digitalized their mammography equipment. The concern of the Health Committee is that medical only covers analog imaging for mammograms. The Health Committee will work with the County on this very important issue, so imaging is available to all women. The next meeting will be on November 18, 2008 at 10:30 in the Hall of Administration.

**Domestic Violence Committee:** Commissioner Rodriguez attended the 10 year celebration of the Office of Women's Health (OWH) and Salute to Supervisor Burke. The Supervisor credited the Commission for Women for the establishment of the OWH.

**Gender Equity Committee:** No report.

**Older Women's Issues Committee:** Pat Wilson reported that the committee is working on a title for the Older Women's Conference. The Committee will appeal the office of Supervisor-elect Mark Ridley-Thomas to hold the conference in the Second District.



**Education Committee:** Commissioner Becerra-Jones reported that the drop out rate across the nation is extremely high, foreign countries continue to surpass the U.S. There is a need for additional counselors and more parent involvement.

Commissioner Gravely explained with the absence of Third District Commissioners, the Awards Luncheon Committee will need additional Commissioner to assist with the selection of the Community-At-Large Awardees. She also would like the Awards Luncheon Update placed on future agendas.

Commission Pinedo cautioned the Awards Luncheon Committee on spending and to solicit corporate sponsorship as soon as possible.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Geneviève Clavreul commented that the nursing scholarships and criteria for licensing. She also spoke on the increase in AIDS in Latino and African American women.

Pat Wilson reported that she attended the original stakeholders meeting for the Senior Seamless Services Initiative and encouraged a Commissioner to attend one meeting.

Treasurer Freeman recommended the President to send a letter Gail Farber, newly appointed Director of Public Works.

Supervisor Don Knabe, Fourth District stopped by to say hello.

#### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Lesser attended Women Lead, more than 150 women participated. Laura Chick and Speaker Karen Bass were in attendance.

Commissioner Creary reported the following:

- Supervisor Burke re-appointed her to the Commission with term ending 2010.
- Attended the Governor and First Lady's Conference, Long Beach Convention Center on October 21, 2008, Night at the Village and on October 22, 2008 the Conference. Speakers and Entertainers included: Singer Marilyn McCoo, Jennifer Lopez, Governor Schwarzenegger and Warren Buffet, moderator Chris Matthew, First Lady Maria Shriver, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and many others. An amazing conference!
- On October 26, 2008, Stepping Out for Diabetes and Health Fair, City Hall South Lawn.
- Office of Women's Health 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary Breakfast and Salute to Supervisor Burke at the California Endowment on November 6, 2008.
- Anniversary Brunch Scholarship Celebration-Harbor Area Chapter, the Links, - Inc., Long Beach Convention Center on November 9, 2008.

Commissioner Gravely attended the Governor's Conference and most impacted by the statistics of the US education system.

Commissioner Jernigan attended the Consul General of Turkey event, where they highlighted women politics.

**MATTERS NOT POSTED ON THE AGENDA (to be presented and placed on a future agenda):**

None presented.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

**COMMISSIONERS**

Reiko Duba, President  
Bobbi Jean Tanberg, Vice President  
Peggy Freeman, Treasurer  
Yolanda Becerra-Jones  
Ruth V. Creary, Ph.D.  
Wadie Gravely  
Ruth Jernigan  
Charlotte Lesser  
Michelle Pinedo  
Olivia Rodríguez

**EXCUSED**

Karin Davalos  
Janet Mummey, Esq.  
Elise ZeBrack

**COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES**

Rhonda Rangel, Twila Kerr and Nyla Jefferson Executive Office  
Elaine Rodriguez, OAAC

**GUESTS**

Geneviève Clavreul  
Tiffany Smith  
Pat Wilson